



Eyelid Condition - Ptosis

The Following Information has been Prepared for You:

Ptosis is a condition of the eyelid that may be present at birth or acquired later in life. Essentially, it is a droopy upper eyelid that cannot be voluntarily raised to normal heights. It usually affects just one eye. Ptosis is the result of either poor development or damage to the muscles or nerves that control the eyelids. Eye or facial injuries can cause ptosis. It can also occur due to some systemic conditions that affect motor control, such as multiple sclerosis, myasthenia gravis, Bell's Palsy and diabetic neuropathy. Adequate treatment of these conditions may help resolve ptosis. Some medications may also cause ptosis as a side effect.

Ptosis often causes the appearance of a squinting eye. It can cause the other eye to overcompensate which further emphasizes this appearance. In some cases, the lid may block some or all of the pupil which causes poor central and peripheral vision.

Poor motor control of the lid may also prevent it from closing fully during blinking or sleep. Poor closure can cause other symptoms such as dry eye, excess tearing, light sensitivity and blurred vision. In some cases, excess dryness negatively impacts the health and function of the ocular surface - the cornea and the conjunctiva.

Many patients with ptosis are asymptomatic and do not require or desire treatment.

However, those with unexplained acquired ptosis are referred to a neurologist for diagnosis and treatment of the underlying medical condition.

At this time, there are no topical medications to treat this condition. Patients with congenital ptosis or those who have developed it due to scarring or injury may be referred to a cosmetic surgeon or ophthalmologist who may perform procedures to surgically lift the lid. Sometimes, the opposite upper eyelid is "weighted" to give a more uniform appearance. Surgery may be done for cosmetic as well as functional reasons to restore vision.

Please Rate the Information You Received

	☐ Very helpful - all questions are answered ☐ Somewhat helpful - I still have questions ☐ Not helpful - none of my questions were answered
Comments / Questions / Typos:	

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